

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00 NSC-05  
/077 W

-----106305 161758Z /50

R 161204Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9165  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO USMISSION USNATO  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
USNMR SHAPE

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E. O. 11652:NA  
TAGS: UK MPOL MORG NATO  
SUBJECT: INCREASE IN STRENGTH OF UK ARMY

1. MOD MADE PUBLIC YESTERDAY THE PLANS FOR INCREASING  
UK ARMY STRENGTH BY 4,000 MEN ADDITIONAL TO THE  
1900 INCREASE ANNOUNCED IN FEBRUARY. IT IS ESTIMATED  
THAT ABOUT HALF OF THE NEW RECRUITS WILL BE ASSIGNED  
TO STRENGTHEN BAOR UNITS, PARTICULARLY THE ARMoured  
REGIMENTS. THE QUALITY PRESS HAS GIVEN PROMINENCE TO  
THE ANNOUNCEMENT TREATING THE NEWS VERY FAVORABLY. THE  
NEW INCREASE MEANS THAT NEARLY A HALF OF THE MANPOWER  
CUTS IN THE ARMY WILL HAVE BEEN RESTORED. MOD'S  
STATEMENT CAST THE INCREASE AS ACCORDING "WELL WITH  
PRESIDENT CARTER'S INITIATIVES AS EMBODIED IN THE NATO  
LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM."

2. COMMENT: SOURCES IN WHITEHALL AGREE THAT MULLEY  
HAD TO FIGHT HARD TO CARRY THE BATTLE AGAINST OPPONENTS  
OF DEFENSE INCREASES AND IT IS NO COINCIDENCE THAT THE  
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GOVERNMENT MADE PUBLIC THIS DECISION DURING THE  
PARLIAMENTARY RECESS. GENERAL REACTION FROM OPPOSITION  
SPOKESMEN HAS BEEN ONE OF APPLAUDING THE DECISION  
WHILE CASTIGATING THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE CUTS IT MADE  
AFTER THE DEFENSE REVIEW, THEREBY MAKING THE PRESENT  
INCREASE NECESSARY. NATURALLY, WHILE WELCOMING THE  
GOVERNMENT'S DECISION ON THE ARMY INCREASES,

CONSERVATIVES ARE ATTACKING THE TIMING OF THE ANNOUNCE-  
MENT AS DUE TO THE IMMINENCE OF THE FORTHCOMING  
GENERAL ELECTION.

BREWS

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NNNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MILITARY PERSONNEL, MILITARY PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LONDON13146  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780372-1081  
**Format:** TEL  
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**Line Count:** 67  
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**Message ID:** f9f4f662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1727615  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INCREASE IN STRENGTH OF UK ARMY  
**TAGS:** MPOL, MORG, UK, NATO  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f9f4f662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
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